

rather feeble and a second pair of very robust maxillipeds, moved by very powerful striated muscles. The terminal portion of the body is obtuse and terminated by two lateral lobes, containing the sacs for the spermatophora. These organs, which are regularly spherical, are united with the testes by fine deferent ducts.

In the form of the female and in the multiplicity of the ovigerous saes, which are so rare among the Copepoda, *Aspidocia* closely approaches *Choniostoma mirabile* recently discovered by H. J. Hansen beneath the branchial integuments of *Hippolyte polaris* and *Gaimardi* of the Kara Sea. With *Choniostoma* and *Sphæronella* it must enter into the aberrant family of the Choniostomatidæ. The discovery of the still unknown male of *Choniostoma* will no doubt enable us to fix more exactly the affinities of this family.

Finally the relations between the *Aspidocia* and the *Aspidophryxus* render it a very probable supposition that *Choniostoma* is or has been parasitic upon a branchial Bopyride of the *Hippolyte* and has usurped its dwelling-place. A memoir with plates will make known in more detail the anatomy of *Podascon* and *Aspidocia*, and we may be permitted in conclusion to thank MM. Della Valle and A. M. Norman, who have sent us the materials for this investigation in an admirable state of preservation.—*Comptes Rendus*, April 29, 1889, p. 902.

Spontaneous Movements of the Style and Stigmata of the Cornflag
(*Gladiolus segetum*). By M. C. MUSSET.

The author notes that movements of the female organs of plants are comparatively uncommon and calls attention to an important instance in the Cornflag. In the Iridacæ the anthers open outwards longitudinally, so that the pollen falls upon the parts of the perianth, and can only reach the stigmata by the action of the wind, the intervention of insects, &c. In the genus *Gladiolus* the style and stigmata, by their movements, get over this difficulty.

The three stamina forming the exterior whorl of the andrœcium attain their final length before the styles have commenced their growth; the two posterior lateral ones incline their filaments to the right and left of the anterior stamen, so that the three anthers are juxtaposed in the same plane. At this moment they turn their dorsal surface to the style and they are also 3 centim. longer, so that direct pollination is doubly impossible. The conerescent styles situated behind the filaments grow rapidly in the direction of the dorsal line of the andrœcium and soon equal the stamina in height; but the filaments bend slightly outwards, the anthers, hitherto in lateral contact, separate, and their cells open; the styles, still growing, bend in the same direction; the three stigmata also separate and move so as to come directly beneath the anthers, from which the pollen can then fall only upon the stigmatic papillæ. Direct pollination is thus insured.—*Comptes Rendus*, April 29, 1889, p. 905.